GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4421
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2017
Visa Limit by Australia
Kothapalli Smt. Geetha

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Australia has announced changes to the 457 visa programme, a move that will adversely affect Indians working in that country and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to protect the Indian workers in Australia in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) & (b) Australia is making some modifications to the 457 visa programme. These are general changes and not specific to India, although this will affect Indians as well.

The changes in the programme relate to number of days a person can stay in Australia after completion of the employment contract and also to financial contribution required to be made by the visa holder to public education towards the cost of educating children in government schools. The issue of 457 visa programme has been taken up with the Australian Government by the Government of India through its High Commission in Australia.